

**OPTOMECH**

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Additive Manufacturing Systems

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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**PATENT APPLICATION**

on October 21, 2003.

Jeffrey D. Myers, Reg. No. 35,964

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/841,871  
Applicant : David M. Keicher, et al.  
Filed : April 24, 2001  
Title : MULTIPLE BEAMS AND NOZZLES TO INCREASE DEPOSITION RATE  
TC/A.U. : 1762  
Examiner : FULLER, ERIC B.  
Docket No. : ODC1120-DIVA

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**DECLARATION OF DAVID M. KEICHER UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Sir:

DAVID M. KEICHER declares as follows:

1. I am an inventor of the subject matter of the above-identified patent application.
2. I and my co-inventor conceived and invented the inventive subject matter

disclosed and claimed in the above-identified patent application prior to September 12, 1997.

To wit, we conceived how to create an apparatus and method for direct material deposition  
having a laser nozzle assembly with multiple laser beams coupled with separate powdered  
material streams, positioning a substrate adjacent to the laser nozzle assembly, heating the



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powdered material with the laser beams, and providing relative motion between the assembly and the substrate.

3. After September 12, 1997, I prepared drawings of the invention and diligently assisted in the preparation of a patent application, which was filed on January 22, 1998.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date:

10/21/03DAVID M. KEICHER

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